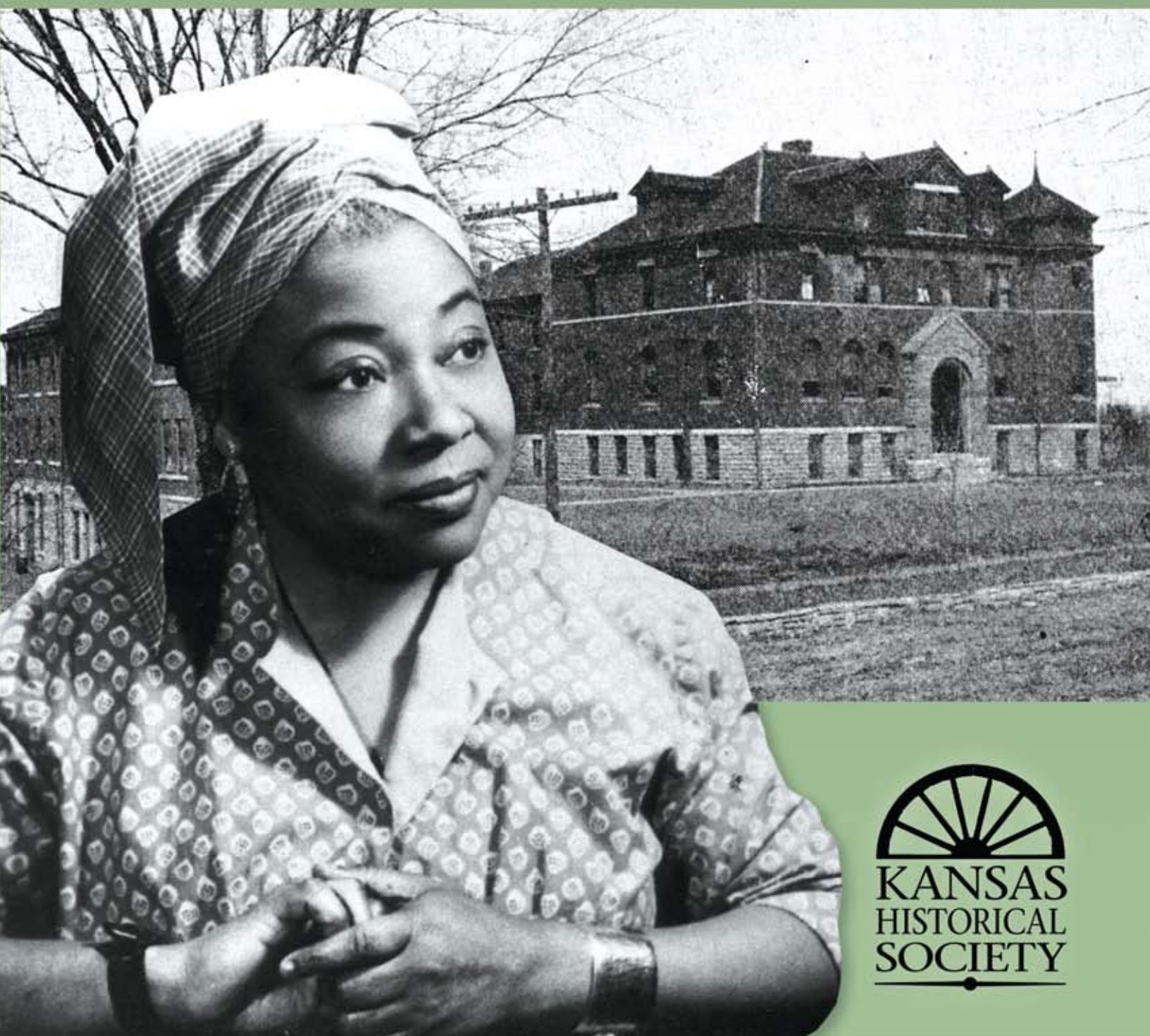


Spring 2010

Reflections



REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

Spring 2010

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2

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On the cover: Eva Jessye was a graduate of Western University in Quindaro. She went on to become a successful singer and conductor.

Reflections

Welcome

The Kansas Historical Society recently opened a special exhibit, *Cars: The Need for Speed*, in the Kansas Museum of History. At the same time, portions of the museum's main gallery exhibits are being updated, and planning and production is underway for new exhibits at Fort Hays State Historic Site. Teams representing the Historical Society's many functions participate in exhibit planning, but design and construction efforts are the responsibility of a three person team headed by Chris Prouty.

Chris is the director of museum exhibits, a position he has held for 11 years. He began work with the Historical Society 24 years ago as a temporary graphic designer/illustrator during production of the last three phases of the main gallery.

"I especially enjoy updating the now 25-year-old gallery," Chris said. "There is enormous pleasure in re-configuring the space, dynamic, and texture of each particular section, hopefully improving on what was already there, yet staying faithful to the overall look, style, and theme of the gallery. My goals are to provide a learning opportunity, showcasing artifacts and engaging the viewer."

In addition to museum exhibits, Chris' team designs and constructs exhibits for the Historical Society's 16 state-owned sites. The Historical Society has received numerous awards for exhibits at the sites and Kansas Museum of History.

Chris enjoys the constant variety of work and new sets of challenges at the Historical Society. He credits the talented people with whom he has had the opportunity to work in exhibits, the museum, and the entire agency. He values the input and diverse skills of his exhibits team, Morgan Shortle and Ron Seeger.



Chris Prouty
Director of Museum Exhibits

Voice of “Bleeding Kansas” Antislavery Advocate

At the age of nine, Julia Louisa Hardy experienced a deep religious conversion. From that moment on she was a devout Methodist who wanted to make an impact on the world around her. She once said, “if I have not done good, I have done evil.” The passing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 and the conflict between free-state and proslavery interests that followed gave Julia a chance to influence those around her.

In March 1855 she made the move from New Hampshire to Kansas Territory with her husband of more than 20 years, Reverend Charles Haseltine Lovejoy. The couple came to Kansas as part of the New England Emigrant Aid Company. This company recruited antislavery settlers to move to Kansas Territory.

Julia saw the end of slavery as a way to better the world and she became the voice of Bleeding Kansas for many in the East. Her letters to eastern newspapers told of the difficulties of migration, including illness and the high costs of travel and provisions. The letters Julia wrote during the trip were especially emotional when describing the illness of her four-year-old daughter, Edith, who had measles and was so ill that she died the first week the Lovejoys were in Kansas Territory. Julia wrote:

“For five short summers she has gladdened our hearts, and been a light in our dwelling, and within four days of her sixth birthday, the spirits took its heavenward flight, and we laid her precious dust away on a beautiful prairie, near Lawrence, Kansas Territory. Sleep on, my angel child—though thy mother’s heart is breaking with untold anguish death’s icy grasp will ere long be broken, and then my eyes undimmed by burning tears, will behold thee, a seraph, with the “shining band.”



Charles Lovejoy was put in charge of the Fort Riley mission in June 1855, and the family built the first house on the Manhattan Town Company site. Julia’s letters give first-hand information on the pioneer settlement that is the present-day city of Manhattan.

The Lovejoys soon moved to Lawrence and lived there during the height of territorial conflict. During an attack on Lawrence in September 1856 by proslavery supporters, Julia was forced to flee from her home. She wrote:

“When the firing commenced . . . expecting our dwelling to be demolished by cannon balls though built of stone, I caught my darling babe (now a year old) from the bed. . . . I rushed to a place of safety out of town as fast as my feeble limbs could carry me until I had walked about two miles . . .”

Julia and her family relocated frequently due to Charles’ mission work. They eventually settled in Palmyra (now Baldwin City), where Julia died in 1882.

Lovejoy’s diary, in the collection of the Kansas Historical Society, gives insight into life for settlers in eastern Kansas during the territorial conflict.

“Head-Hand-Heart for the Home”: Western University

Eva Jessye was a popular spiritual singer and successful choral conductor in the 1920s and 1930s who began her career at Western University in Kansas. Jessye was one of a number of talented African American students who participated in the university’s Jackson Jubilee Singers in Quindaro, Wyandotte County. The music curriculum was one of many successful programs at the university, which drew students from around the Midwest and beyond.



Western University students gather on the campus grounds circa 1923 to enjoy a music concert.

The town of Quindaro, located near Kansas City and the Missouri and Kansas rivers, was a popular stop for African Americans traveling north from the South after the Civil War. Here they found a generally supportive community. In 1865 when Freedman’s University was founded, 429 African Americans lived in the community. Operated by Presbyterian minister Eben Blachley, Freedman’s struggled to find funds to survive. When Blachley died in 1877, the university closed. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church gave second life to the university, reopening it in 1881 with the name Western University. The AME Church jointly operated Wilberforce University in Ohio for black students, among 13 others. Choosing the name Western based on its proximity to Wilberforce, the church followed Booker T. Washington’s Tuskegee Institute model with a curriculum of vocational training.

When Ward Hall was constructed in 1891, all members on the university’s board were African American. Western added theological courses to the curriculum and hired Bishop William Tecumseh Vernon as president. Vernon helped grow the university with the philosophy “to educate the head-hand-heart for the home.” By 1907 students displayed the unofficial school emblem—four-leaf clover with four Hs, a sunflower, and a gold center with the school’s initials—on their clothing.

Vernon’s goal was for graduates to be equipped with practical skills that would lead to employment. “We are of the opinion that in this day of competition and labor unions and stern demands,” Vernon said, “nothing will aid us as much as to prepare our youths to compete with any in the world of skilled labor.”

The Kansas Legislature agreed to fund a \$10,000

building in 1899 to house the new industrial department. This public-private partnership would continue throughout the remainder of the university's history and place it at the center of political dealings. Western received funding in 1905 for the Girls' Trades Building, 1907 for the Boys' Trades Building, and 1909 for the girls' dormitory.

As a result of the state funding, Kansas students received tuition discounts. Western's 1916-1917 catalog listed enrollment at \$8.50 per month for room and board; \$1.50 in trade fees, Kansas students were exempt; \$1 one-time entrance fee, and \$1 gymnasium fee per semester. Laundry, textbooks, and uniforms were not included.

Western University's renown grew after hiring Robert G. Jackson. A graduate of music from the University of Kansas, Jackson built the music program at Western. After joining the university in 1902, Jackson created vocal, orchestra, and band programs. He formed the Jubilee Singers, which began to gain national acclaim as singers performed in every state, at Chautauquas, and even traveled to Africa for a series of programs. The music program maintained rigorous requirements with mandatory private lessons and practice of three-and-a-half hours per day by 1920.

Jackson's students included Jessye who went on to collaborate in groundbreaking productions in film and on Broadway including George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. She was noted for her involvement during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s and 1930s when African Americans in New York began to make a major impact in the arts.

Nora Douglass Holt, another of Jackson's students, co-wrote the school song, "O Western U." With words by her father, the Reverend Calvin Douglass, the song acknowledged the struggles of Bleeding Kansas. Holt later was involved in the Harlem Renaissance, creating more than 200 musical compositions.

A fire in 1924 severely damaged Ward Hall and the admissions began to decline. Further drops in state appropriations and private funding led to Western University's closure in 1943.

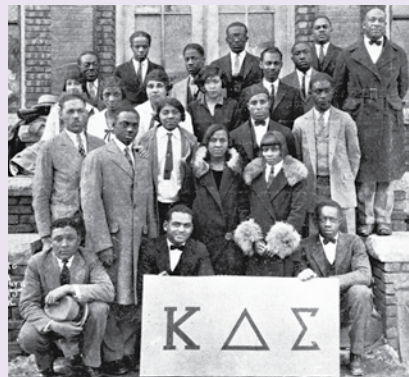
The school song was composed by Nora Douglass Holt.



RESEARCH | STATE ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

When you visit our research room you can view yearbooks, catalogs, and pamphlets from Western University. You'll also find newspaper clippings documenting events at the university.

kshs.org/places/state_archives



DISCOVER | REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES

Find out more about Kansan Eva Jessye through our Real People. Real Stories. trading cards.

kshs.org/real_people

Find even more images of Jessye in our online digital collection, *Kansas Memory*.

kansasmemory.org



BROWSE | NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER

Although Western University buildings no longer exist, a school named for Western's President Vernon stands south of the original campus, which he delivered the dedication address in 1936. This WPA Art Deco structure is listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

kshs.org/resource/national_register



Wooden Walking Stick

Three of the Kansas Historical Society's longtime supporters, Ruth Lawson and Mark and Nancy Viets, donated funds to purchase a carved wooden walking stick associated with the history of Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site.

Carved in the mid to late 1800s by Shawnee tribal leader Charles Bluejacket for his friend Charles Boles, the walking stick had been passed down in the Boles family. Bluejacket was a youth when the United States government removed the Shawnees from Ohio and Missouri. In Kansas he attended a mission school, married, and became a successful farmer and interpreter for the federal government. Now on display at the site, the walking stick helps tell the story of those who lived and worked at the mission.

Topeka resident Ruth Lawson has been a life member of the Historical Society since 1980 and is active as a volunteer. She and her late husband, Dr. Robert Lawson, have been financial supporters. Mark and Nancy Viets of Mission contributed to the rehabilitation of Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site through donations, including the Partnership Historic Sites Tax Credits, which fill funding gaps for important maintenance, operations, and programming projects at state historic sites (see article below).



Tax Credit Program Preserves History

The innovative Partnership Historic Sites Tax Credit program helped more than 60 individuals and businesses save an estimated \$80,000 in state income taxes while putting dollars to work preserving the 16 state-owned historic sites. This tax program, established two-and-a-half years ago, has generated more than \$160,000 for the state sites.

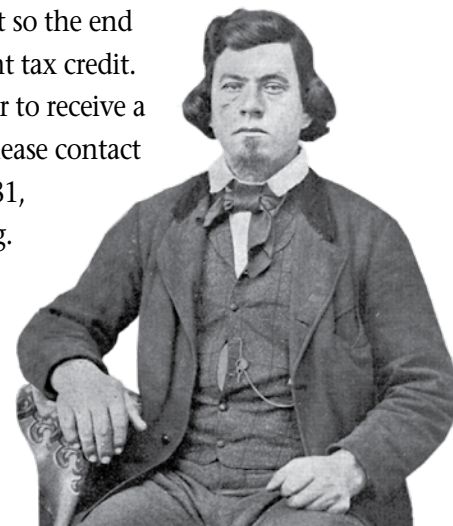
Currently only \$30,000 in tax credits remain. We need your help to ensure that all tax credits are utilized by the June 30 deadline.

Donate between now and June 30, 2010, to receive a 50 percent tax credit on your 2010 Kansas taxes.

- Contribution range: \$1,000 - \$5,000 (a \$5,000 gift results in a \$2,500 Kansas tax credit).
- Gifts are used to help restore, preserve, and operate the state-owned historic sites.

- This is a tax credit not tax deduction—which is subtracted from the final amount of tax owed the state of Kansas.
- The amount of Kansas tax credit not utilized is refundable.
- Tax credit donations are eligible for federal tax deduction (ask an accountant or financial advisor).
- Kansas Department of Revenue form K-75 will cap the tax credit by 10 percent so the end result is a net 45 percent tax credit.

For more information or to receive a donor submission form, please contact Vicky Henley, 785-272-8681, ext. 201; vhenley@kshs.org.



Charles Bluejacket



Pawnee Indian Museum

The Pawnees were once the largest and most powerful Indian nation in the central plains. The Kitkahaki, or Republican, band of the Pawnees settled near the Republican River in north central Kansas in 1820. This village of more than 1,000 people contained at least 30 or 40 earth lodges. The village was fortified for protection from nearby enemies, including the Kaw and the Osage.

By 1830 wood became scarce and the land was no longer productive. The village was abandoned and the band moved north, closer to other Pawnees. Today all that remains are the depressions in the ground where the earth lodges once stood—and archeological evidence of the Pawnee culture. Pawnee Indian Museum was built around one of the earth lodge depressions, which was then excavated to reveal the lodge floor.

Visitors to the site can explore the perimeter of the lodge, discover exhibits that tell the Pawnee story, and tour the interpretive trail that winds through the depressions marking other lodges.



Visit the site!

Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site • 480 Pawnee Trail, Republic • Eight miles north of U.S. 36 on K-266
785-361-2255 • kshs.org/places/pawneeindian

Admission: \$3 adults, \$1 students; KSHS, Inc., members and children five and under admitted free

Visitor hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesday – Saturday, 1 – 5 p.m. Sunday

Fort Stories from the Post Surgeon

When post surgeons at Kansas frontier forts submitted their monthly reports, little did they know they would be providing 21st century researchers a valuable glimpse into fort life.

Post surgeons were required to submit monthly reports on the condition of the post. They were also required to keep records of births, illnesses, and deaths and report on the weather, flora, and fauna of the region. These records provide insight to the living conditions at the fort and tell us a little more about the people who lived at the fort.

At Fort Hays in Ellis County, a study of the post surgeon's records tells us about the cholera epidemic that swept through the post in 1867. This was a particularly active time in the fort's history. African American soldiers, sometimes called Buffalo Soldiers, and other regiments had been deployed to the fort in response to an increase in

REGISTER OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED					
NAME	RANK	REGIMENT OR CORPS	COMPANY	COMPLAINT	ADMITTED
Johnstone, Edward	Private	10th Cavalry	B	Cholera	July 20, 1867
Paula, Henry		35th Infantry	C		Aug 1st 1867
Wilson, William		10th Cavalry	B		1st 1867
Briggs, Charles		10th Cavalry			July 20, 1867
Calderon, Albert					21st
Kelly, Augustus					21st
Quadrupie, Richard					
George, John					
Charles, Henry					
James, John					July 25, 1867
Ernest, John					21st
William, George					Aug 1st 1867
Little, Samuel		10th Cavalry	B		
John, John					
Thompson, John					
Quadrupie, William					
John, John					
William, John W.				Diarrhea	21st 1867
John, John					July 20, 1867
Ch. Henry, Andrew	Private	35th Infantry	C	Cholera	21st 1867

The Fort Hays "Register of the Sick and Wounded" shows soldiers being treated for cholera in July and August 1867.

conflicts with Plains Indians. A flood in June forced relocation of the fort.

The first case of cholera at Fort Hays appeared July 11, 1867. The post hospital had not yet been built so soldiers and civilian patients were housed in tents. The epidemic lasted two months, killing 36 soldiers and approximately 150 civilians.

The post surgeon's reports can also tell us about the civilians at Fort Hays. Rose Glennan was working as a servant in the home of Lieutenant Colonel Bliss in August 1881. Glennan used kerosene to light a fire in the kitchen stove, but was engulfed in flame when the oil can



There are more records on the Fort Hays post hospital than any other building on the post.

A servant girl, Rose Glennan, in the employ of Lt. Col. J. R. Bliss, Commanding Post, was severely burned on the afternoon of the 10th inst while attempting to light a fire in the kitchen stove with kerosene oil. The can exploded and she was immediately enveloped in flame. She ran into the front part of the house, where meeting Col. Bliss who at once recognizing the gravity of the situation, a blanket was hastily thrown around her and the fire extinguished. Both hands were burned, and both arms to the axilla, both legs were also burned from the ankles to the hips, and there was a deep laceration on the right side, about six long by 4 inches wide, over lower lobe of lung. The burns were of the 2nd & 3rd degree. Probably about one third of the surface was involved. Flour was immediately applied and the parts wrapped in raw cotton, after reaction, carbolic dressing.

The post surgeon recorded an incident in which an officer's servant was badly burned, including the treatment for the burns

exploded. She ran to the front part of the house, where Bliss threw a blanket around her to extinguish the fire.

Glennan suffered second and third degree burns on her hands, arms, underarms, and legs from ankles to hips. The surgeon reported that flour was applied and the burns were dressed with raw cotton. "She was doing well," the surgeon wrote, "although ulceration of the duodenum supervened during the second week, death was at one time imminent."

There is little information about the children of Fort Hays, but the post surgeon's records of births and deaths help tell some of the story. Charity Humphries Maier was married to Christian Maier, a sergeant in the 18th Infantry. Charity gave birth to three daughters while her husband was stationed at Fort Hays. The oldest, whose name we do not know, was born in 1885 and died at the age of seven months from cholera. The next daughter, Jessie, was born in 1886, followed in 1888 by Gertrude, who died at the age of two months from an "inflammation of stomach and bowels."

In addition to these life-or-death situations, the records tell us the everyday ailments suffered by soldiers, including "boils, colic, contusions, diarrhea, frostbite, sprains, and ulcers."

The post surgeon's reports, as well as other official military records from Fort Hays and other Kansas frontier forts, are stored at the National Archives. Many of these records are on microfilm and can be viewed at the State Archives & Library in Topeka. The State Archives also has an extensive collection of frontier fort images. Some can be seen on kansasmemory.org.

VISIT | FORT HAYS STATE HISTORIC SITE

New exhibits opening this fall at Fort Hays State Historic Site will allow visitors to discover more about the every day lives of enlisted soldiers at the fort, including stories from the post surgeon's reports. kshs.org/places/forthays



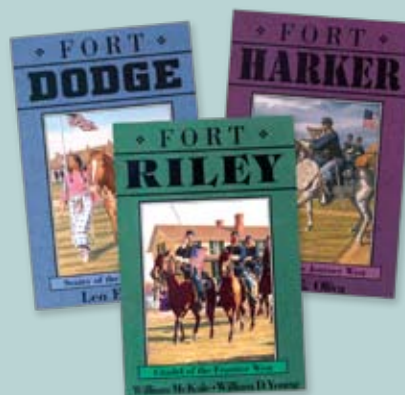
BROWSE | STATE ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

Explore post returns, letters to and from the post command, post surgeon's reports, and other official Kansas frontier fort records on microfilm at the State Archives & Library in Topeka. kshs.org/places/state_archives

CIVILIANS ATTACHED TO OR WITH THE COMMAND. (To include the wives, children, relatives, servants of officers and enlisted men, as well as all other civilians, male and female, living at the post or connected with the command.)									
Adult males, No.	8	Adult females, No.	27	Children, No.	47	Total	84	REMARKS.	
Sick Report.	No. remaining sick on last report.	No. taken sick during month.	Number recovered.	Number died.	Remaining sick.				
Adult males									
Adult females									
Children						Inflammation of stomach & bowels			
REGISTER OF DEATHS AMONG CIVILIANS WITH THE COMMAND DURING THE MONTH.									
(The information called for as to the diseases, deaths, and burials of civilians is required to perfect the records of vital statistics, etc., in the Surgeon General's Office, and for this reason also reported Reports of Intending cause and date will be forwarded.)									
NAME	AGE	SEX	RACE	CAUSE	DATE				
Gertrude May Maier	2	Female	White	Inflammation of stomach & bowels	June 26, 1888				

SHOP | MUSEUM STORE

Explore the stories of Kansas forts in this series of easy-to-read books by Leo E. Oliva. Forts Dodge, Harker, Hays, Larned, Leavenworth, Riley, Scott, and Wallace are featured. kshs.org/store



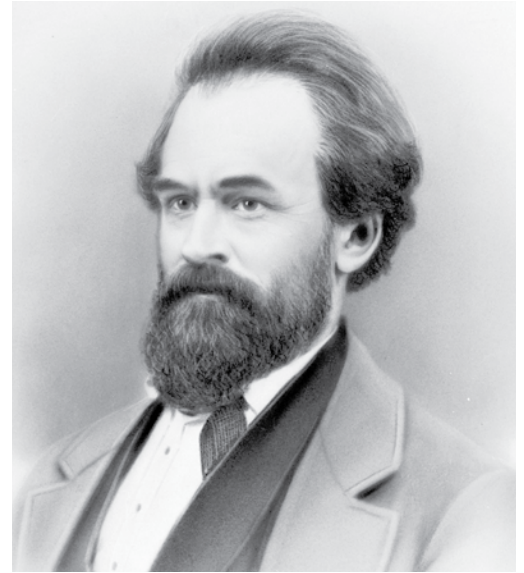
In 2011 Kansas will celebrate its statehood sesquicentennial. "Countdown to Statehood" is a series of articles depicting key events from Kansas' territorial days and related commemoration events sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society.

Countdown to Statehood: Border War at the Front Door

One of the last violent battles in the border war between Kansas and Missouri took place in June 1860 at the home of Joseph Gardner in Douglas County. Gardner was an abolitionist and employed two African Americans who had escaped slavery in nearby Jackson County, Missouri. Fearful of retribution, Gardner wrote a letter to his friend, George Stearns, asking for weapons and ammunition.

... there is an effort being made in the vicinity to induce citizens of St. Jo. Mo. to come and make war upon my house.

The next day Gardner visited Stearns' agent in Lawrence, who fulfilled his request. A few nights later a group of men



Above, Joseph Gardner; lower left, Gardner's letter describes one of the last battles of the border war between Kansas and Missouri.

looking to capture the former slaves approached the Gardner home.

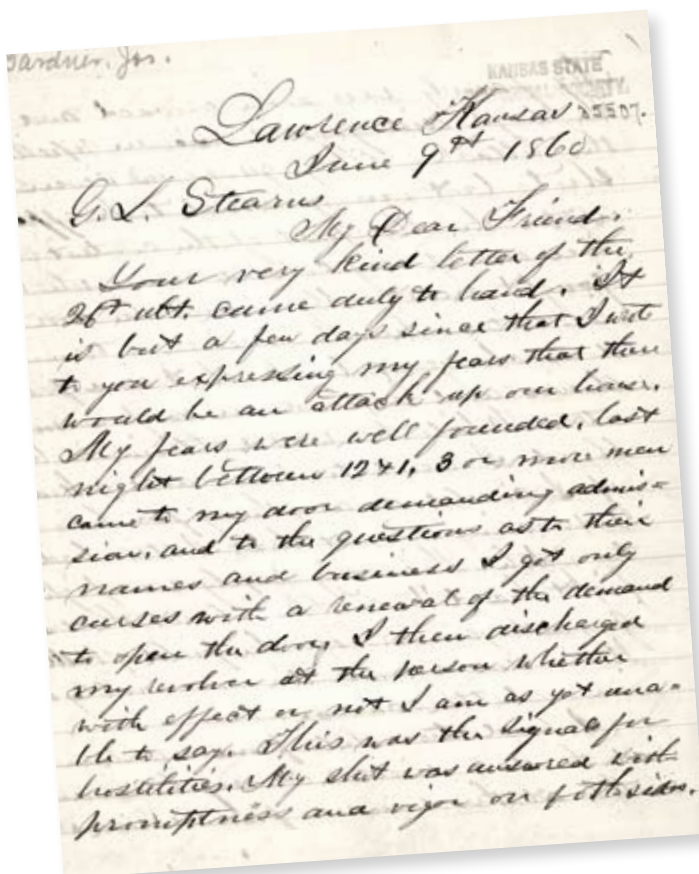
... three or more men came to my door demanding admission, and to the question as to their names and business I got only curses with a renewal of the demand to open the door. I then discharged my revolver at the person . . . This was the signal for hostilities. My shot was answered with promptness and vigor on both sides.

Gardner wrote that his sons and hired hands joined the gunfight. Napoleon Simpson, one of the men who had escaped slavery, was killed in the battle.

... While he was weltering in his blood I went to him and asked if I could do anything for him, expressing a regret that I still had to watch. His only reply was fight! Fight hard!!

After a failed attempt at lighting fire to the Gardner home, the attackers fled.

During the Civil War, Gardner served as a first lieutenant in the First Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry. One of the men under his command was brother-in-law to the deceased Napoleon Simpson. Gardner died in August 1863 at a field hospital at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory.



Preservation at the Crossroads

KSHS, Inc., Spring Meeting in Newton

KSHS, Inc., members will join the state's preservation community for this year's spring meeting in Newton. This event combines local culture, like milling and rural heritage, with presentations from nationally known speakers on topics related to green design, preservation economics, pop culture, and volunteer power. The event also features tours, workshops, and receptions all with a focus on historic preservation and archeology.

The 2010 Kansas Preservation Conference, "Preservation

at the Crossroads," will be held June 2 – 5, while Friday, June 4, is designated as KSHS, Inc., Spring Meeting day. KSHS, Inc., members receive a discount on registration for the day's events, which feature Peter Harkness, "The Comeback of the City;" D. Brooke Smith, "The Christman Building;" afternoon lunch; birthplace of Kansas archeology; John Speweik, "Historic Masonry Workshop;" and an evening keynote by Charles Phoenix, "God Bless Americana."

Conference Registration Form

You may register by completing and mailing in this form to the address below. Copy extra sheets for additional participants. Or, register online at kshs.org/resource/preservationconf.htm

Name (as you would like it to appear on your badge) _____
Title _____ Organization _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Conference Registration Fees and Tickets

General conference registration includes all conference materials, sessions, breaks, Friday lunch, and Friday evening banquet.

■ Early General Registration \$120 per person = _____
Registration and payment received by May 15, 2010

■ Late General Registration \$130 per person = _____
Registration and/or payment received after May 15, 2010

■ Kansas Preservation Alliance Reception _____ persons
(no additional charge)

■ Wednesday Workshops _____ persons
(free and open to the public)

I plan to attend the following workshops on Wednesday, June 2, 2010:

Navigating the National Register of Historic Places _____

Survey: Documenting Historic Resources _____

Snap Shot: Photographing Historic Buildings _____

Historic Bridge Workshop _____

Great Tours Workshop _____

Thursday, June 3, 2010

■ One-day Registration for Thursday \$60 per person = _____

Friday, June 4, 2010 – KSHS, Inc., Spring Meeting Day

■ One-day Registration for Friday only (includes banquet)
\$75/KSHS, Inc., member \$60 = _____ persons
KSHS, Inc., member number _____

■ Guest Banquet Tickets (Keynote Address by Charles Phoenix)
\$50 per person = _____

Saturday, June 5, 2010

One-day Registration for Saturday Only \$30 per person = _____

Saturday Sessions _____ persons
(Register Early, Registration is Limited!)

I plan to attend the following session on Saturday, June 5, 2010:

Rural Heritage Tour _____

Homeowners Workshop _____

Total enclosed: _____

Register online or send check payable to "Newton Area Chamber of Commerce" for total registration and fees (no cash please)

Kansas Preservation Conference • c/o Billi Jo Wilson
Newton Area Chamber of Commerce • 500 N. Main
Newton KS 67114 • 316-283-2560

Swimming to Beat the Heat

Escaping the stifling heat is the only way to survive summers in Kansas. Before the days of air conditioning, Kansans had to find other ways to cool down. Topekan Martha Farnsworth used the refreshing waters near Paxico to do just that.



Topekan Martha Farnsworth wrote about her Paxico swimming hole adventures in her diary.

Martha and her husband, Fred, took a group of teenagers from her Sunday school class on an annual camping trip. They would pass the time swimming, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors. Martha recorded her memories of these outings in her diary in the 1910s.

In one entry she wrote, “. . . the water here at this place, is still running and clear, cold and finest ever, for swimming, and we all regret exceedingly, that we must go home tomorrow.”

When swimming by itself wasn't enough, the teenage campers invented new ways to have fun. Martha wrote, “Around on the big, East bank near the mouth of the Sno-ko-mo, the boys have made a big ‘slippery slide,’ more than 30 ft. high and very steep and both the boys and girls have had a big time there today all day.”

Martha didn't let the teenagers have all the fun “. . . we all went down the ‘slippery slide’ but Teddy. It is very high and really too steep for any of us but just oceans of fun . . .”

Swimming in ponds and streams was common in the early 1900s. Swimming pools started to gain popularity after swimming was featured in the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. Many of the first pools, however, were private or belonged to country clubs, and only the elite had access to them.

By the 1920s some larger communities in Kansas had public pools, but smaller towns had no means to build them. This changed in the 1930s with the emergence of the Works Progress Administration, a New Deal program.



Left, divers at the Cahan Swimming Pool, about a half-mile west of Marysville; right, until public pools were built, many Kansans cooled off in ponds and streams, such as these Sedgwick County women in the early 1900s.



Desegregation in Topeka and other communities in the 1960s led to the construction of several public pools.

The WPA was created in 1935 with \$1.4 billion in federal funds. It was intended to give large numbers of people employment with locally sponsored projects. Engineering, road construction, and public building projects such as outdoor recreational facilities were all WPA sponsored. In 1936 the WPA employed more than three million people.

Between July 1935 and June 1939 the WPA improved or constructed 40 Kansas pools. These pools were usually located in public parks and were close to other recreational facilities.

While these pools became a great public resource, not all members of the public could use them. Many public places, including swimming pools, were segregated, especially in larger cities. African American poet Langston Hughes spent much of his childhood in Lawrence. He wrote about segregated swimming pools in his autobiography. “Misery is when you find out your bosom buddy can go in the swimming pool but you can’t.”

A private swim club in Lawrence, the Jayhawk Plunge, was an example of a segregated pool. In a brochure advertising summer activities, the Plunge invited Lawrence residents to swim in a “socially selective and friendly” pool. The registration form includes room for the applicant’s name, address, age, and race.

Although an antislavery stronghold during territorial days, Lawrence had segregated swimming pools until the 1960s. Civil rights organizations tried to integrate private swim clubs that denied admission to African Americans but were unsuccessful. Lawrence voters agreed to fund a municipal swimming pool in 1967 and two years later that pool was opened.

EXPLORE | SWIMMING POOLS

Some Kansas swimming pools constructed by the Works Progress Administration, such as this one in Holton, are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Explore by searching our national and state register database. kshs.org/resource/national_register



BROWSE | KANSAS MEMORY

View images of Kansas swimmers in ponds, rivers, and early public pools when you visit our online resource. kansasmemory.org



RESEARCH | STATE ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

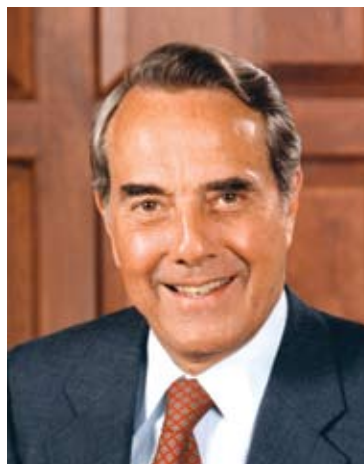
Find Martha Farnsworth’s diaries from 1882 – 1922 on microfilm. Read first-hand accounts of her annual camping trips or learn about her day-to-day life. kshs.org/places/state_archives



Happening at KSHS

Washunga Days, Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

Join us June 18-19 for this community-wide event, which includes the Kaw Inter-Tribal Pow Wow, tours of Kaw Mission, a parade, arts and crafts, and live entertainment. kshs.org/places/kaw



Former Senator Bob Dole has accepted an invitation to become the first member of the honorary board of the Kansas State Historical Society, Inc. The board honors those who have contributed significantly to the preservation of Kansas history. A native of Russell, Dole represented Kansas from 1969 to 1996 in the U.S. Senate. Senator Dole's distinguished career in service to Kansas and Kansans makes him the ideal first member of the KSHS, Inc., honorary board.

Native American Flute Concert by the Spirit Talkers, Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway (Kansas City area)

Join us 10 a.m. June 16 as the Spirit Talkers perform a Native American flute concert. kshs.org/places/Shawnee



Sundown Film Festival, Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

Join us Fridays July 16-August 6 for the fifth annual Sundown Film Festival. This year's theme embraces our *Cars: The Need for Speed* exhibit and features films with an automotive theme. The films will be shown outdoors: *The Muppet Movie*, *American Graffiti*, *Rebel Without a Cause*, and *Back to the Future*. kshs.org/news/sundown_film_series

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Online at kshs.org/calendar

Through November 28, 2010

Cars: The Need for Speed • Exhibit at the Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

May 1-2, 2010

Grinter Place Quilt Show • Event at Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

May 1-June 27, 2010

Remembering the Past; Voices from Pawnee Elders
Exhibit at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

May 4-6, 2010

Theme Days • Event at Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

May 15, 2010

Family Picnic Day • Event at Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

May 16, 2010

Pawnee Scouts • Event at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

June 2-5, 2010

2010 State Historic Preservation Conference and KSHS, Inc., Spring Meeting • Event held in Newton

June 18-20, 2010

Fort Hays Young Troopers Camp
Event held at Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays

June 21, 2010

150th Pony Express Re-Ride • Event held at Pony Express Station State Historic Site, Hanover

June 25-26, 2010

Territorial Days • Event held at Constitution Hall State Historic Site, LeCompton

July 1-August 29, 2010

Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native Americans • Exhibit at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

July 15-29, 2010

Brushy Creek Adult Reading Circle • Series held at Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

July 24, 2010

Artifact Identification Day • Event at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

Spring 2010

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Governor of Kansas

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Kansas Memory

To celebrate Mother's Day, we're featuring this photo of a group of mothers meeting at Sheldon Kindergarten in 1893. You can browse this and other images of Kansas moms at kansasmemory.org